

**A b s t r a c t**

It is disclosed a novel enzyme present in cod liver, a DNA sequence encoding the enzyme or operative parts or biologically functional parts thereof, a novel recombinant DNA comprising the gene or the operative or biologically functional parts thereof, a method of preparing the enzyme from cod liver and from bacteria carrying the gene, the bacteria carrying the gene *per se*, and the use of the protein in monitoring and/or controlling PCR or related reaction systems.